Like the Barren Wasteland

by Makoto Tateno

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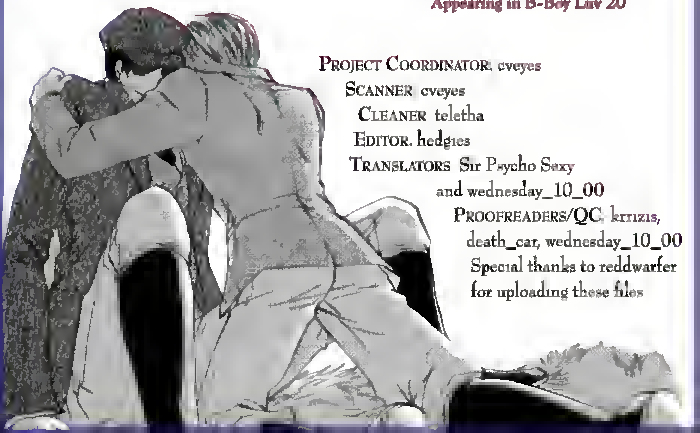


TATENO MAKOTO

立野真琴

荒野の如く

LIKE THE BARREN WASTELAND

WE WILL NOW BEGIN THE DUEL—
BETWEEN LORD WILLIAM PRESTON—
AND LORD CHRIS CLOUDER,
WITNESSED BY THEIR SECONDS
PETER LARKIN AND JOHN AUSTIN

立野真琴
MAKOTO TATENO PRESENTS

SBC「HERO HEEL ～英雄と悪魔～」
BBC「YELLOW①～④」大好評発売中です!!

DRAW YOUR WEAPONS.
There was something I wanted so badly,
どんな手段を用いてでも、
手に入れたいものがあった――。
I was willing to do anything to have it

荒野の如く

あれ　の　ごと

LIKE THE BARREN WASTELAND

SO HOT...
MY CHEST HURTS...
MY BODY. MY ENTIRE BODY IS
WILLIAM,
AREN'T YOU GOING TO GET UP SOON?
WHO'S THERE ?
OPEN YOUR EYES...
AND LOOK AT ME, LORD PRESTON

WHERE IS THIS?
FELL CASTLE
MY COUNTRY HOUSE
YOUR...?
CHRIS...
LORD CLOUDER?
WHY AM. I.?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING?
HOW YOU GOT THAT WOUND?
HUH?
TAKE 20 PACES AND TURN.

THE ONE WHO SHOOTS FIRST IS THE VICTOR.
10
3
2
15
17
BANG!
—!
THAT'S RIGHT.
I WAS.

THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU...
...WERE DEFEATED IN YOUR DUEL WITH ME.
WHEN MY BULLET STRUCK YOUR SHOULDER
YOU STUMBLED AND FELL OFF THE CLIFF
LUCKILY,
MY MANSERVANT WAS UNDER THE CLIFF WHEN YOU FELL AND SAVED YOU.
LUCKILY... YOU SAY?

WHY DID YOU LET HIM SAVE ME?
HOW HUMILIATING.
TO BE RESCUED
BY THE VERY MAN WHOM I CHALLENGED TO A DUEL...
I WON'T BE ABLE TO SHOW MY FACE TO MY FATHER!

IT'S A DISGRACE!

WILLIAM,
YOU WERE IN A COMA...
FOR A WHOLE WEEK.
ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO BODY,
YOUR FUNERAL WAS HELD DURING THAT TIME

YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY.
YOU'RE ALREADY "DEAD."
THE ELDEST CHILD OF THE EARL OF PRESTON...
IS DEAD
DO YOU UNDERSTAND, ISAAC?

ISAAC?
WHAT ARE YOU TO THIS HOUSE-HOLD?
I DON'T BELIEVE IT MASTER WILLIAM IS ALIVE SOMEWHERE..
I KNOW YOU'VE SERVED WILLIAM SINCE HE WAS VERY YOUNG
THAT YOU DON'T BELIEVE HE'S DEAD AND WANT TO SEARCH FOR HIS REMAINS
BUT, MY LORD...
I'M THE BUTLER
I SEE... YOUR DUTY IS TO PROTECT THIS HOUSE
FORGET ABOUT WILLIAM. HE'S DEAD IT'S BETTER THAT WAY
MY LORD...
I SEE...
BECAUSE EVEN IF HE'S ALIVE HE'LL BRING NOTHING BUT SHAME

FATHER IS RIGHT IT'S BETTER THIS WAY
IF I WERE TO RETURN, IT WOULD ONLY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THEM.
IS YOUR "HOUSE" MORE PRECIOUS TO YOU THAN YOUR LIFE?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND
IT'S SO OBVIOUS! THE HOUSE OF PRESTON HAS A DISTINGUISHED HISTORY DATING BACK HUNDREDS OF YEARS! UNLIKE YOU.
UNLIKE ME?
A PERSON WHO RECENTLY BOUGHT HIS BARONY... I SUPPOSE YOU THINK IT'S EXPECTED THAT I NOT UNDERSTAND?
I'D HEARD THAT THE CLOUDERS WERE BOURGEOIS, ADVANCING THEMSELVES THROUGH TRADE BUT...
WHY IS THIS ROOM SO SPARSE? IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A GUEST ROOM. IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
LIKE A SERVANT'S QUARTERS?
YES...
THAT'S RIGHT...
EH?

YOU ARE CORRECT
THIS IS A SERVANT'S ROOM.
WILLIAM.
PUMP
OW!
WHAT...
IT'S FITTING, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE NO LONGER THE SON OF AN EARL
YOU'RE LESS THAN A COMMONER.
DON'T BE INSOLENT, CLOUDER!
YOU'RE THE ONE BEING INSOLENT
I AM A BARON, YOU KNOW
WHAT THE WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
LET ME GO!
WELL THEN...
WILLIAM, WHO'S NOT EVEN A COMMONER.

HOW ARE YOU PLANNING ON SURVIVING?
YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD OTHERS TO DO EVERYTHING FOR YOU.
LIKE A GOOD UPSTAIRS BOY...
WHAT CAN YOU DO?
THE ONLY THINGS YOU HAVE...
ARE A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE AND USELESS PRIDE
AND THIS.
THIS SLIGHTLY INJURED, BUT BEAUTIFUL BODY...
!?
RIIIP

SHUDDER
STOP...
EVERY LAST INCH...
CLOUDER!
ALL WEEK, I'VE BEEN CLEANING YOU, TOUCHING YOUR BODY LIKE THIS...
THERE'S NO REASON TO BE SHY
CLOUDER, ARE YOU MAD?
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
STOP IT!
!
YUCK!
HA.
TWITCH
AHHH!
STOP IT...
YOU CAN'T —

I'LL GIVE YOU WORK, WILLIAM.
BECOME MY LOVER.
AHHH!
UNH...
AAH.
WHY DID THIS...?

CLOUDER, SHE'S BEEN DEPRESSED SINCE SHE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO SEE YOU
I'M NOT SURE WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU BUT YOU'D BEST...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN "WHAT HAPPENED"? I MERELY HAD TEA WITH HER ONCE.
YES LADY BEATRIX
YOUR COUSIN?
WHY DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS?
THAT'S RIGHT IT'S BECAUSE HE
I DON'T THINK SO
I CAN'T IGNORE THAT INSULT RECANT AT ONCE!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
AN EXCESS OF SELF-WORTH
IS SO UNBECOMING IN A LADY
WHAT?
SHE MUST HAVE
MISUNDER-STOOD MY INTENTIONS
MURMUR MURMUR
WI-WILLIAM!
SLAP
!
!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH CALLING A WOMAN WHO WOULD LOOSEN HER OWN CORSET IMMODEST?

SHOCK
HE PICKED UP THE GLOVE...!
I DEMAND A DUEL FOR HER HONOR!
DO YOU ACCEPT?
LORD CHRIS CLOUDER,
YOU JUST INSULTED MY COUSIN!
I NEVER EXPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO HAPPEN
IT'S A DUEL!
IT...
IT HURTS,
CLOUDER...
GET USED TO IT, WILLIAM.

HONESTLY, I'D RATHER DIE...

I TRULY THOUGHT THAT
...
YOU DON'T INTEND TO EAT?
IT'S NO USE TRYING TO STARVE YOURSELF TO DEATH.
grab
YOUR MEAL.
I CAN'T EVEN BITE MY TONGUE...*

*BITING THE TONGUE IS A TRADITIONAL JAPANESE WAY OF COMMITTING SUICIDE WHEN THERE IS NO OTHER CHOICE.

FINE.
I'LL DO AS YOU SAY.
CLOUD-ER...
sigh
AS YOU SEE I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO MAKE YOU EAT
WILL YOU EAT ON YOUR OWN?
UHHH...
MMNN...
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND
I'D RATHER EAT YOU
WHAT A STUPID
AHHH
STOP
HAVE YOU NO SHAME?
THE SUN IS STILL HIGH IN THE SKY
THAT'S RIGHT.

I WANT
TO SEE YOUR BODY IN THE SUNLIGHT
AHH...
DON'T...
LOOK...
I WANT TO DIE...
KUHGO
STOP—
WHY NOT?
AHHH!
YOU ARE SO BEAUTIFUL...
AHH!
AHHGH
THIS...

THAT'S IT...
NOW THEN
EAT THIS... WHILE YOU'RE STILL ON TOP OF ME.
GO ON.
UWAAH.
HYAUGH
THIS...
LICK

AHHH
NNN.
GRIND
THIS IS NOT ME

.....
I'M SORRY
FORCING YOU LIKE THIS WHEN YOUR WOUND IS NOT YET HEALED
ISN'T THAT AN INCONVENIENCE?
WELL, I HIRE TEMPORARY HELP WHEN I NEED IT
I EMPLOY A BUTLER AND A FEW OTHERS
IT'S QUITE LARGE BUT I HAVEN'T SEEN MANY SERVANTS
THIS HOUSE-
HM?

THE FACT THAT A BARONY CAN BE BOUGHT OR SOLD IS ITSELF UNSEEMLY
I AGREE
BUT THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE UNAPPROACHABLE WITHOUT A TITLE SO IT CAN'T BE HELPED
YES I REALIZE THAT
BUT THE BARONY WAS MY DAD'S DREAM. SO I THOUGHT I SHOULD BUY IT IF I COULD
THAT'S PRACTICAL BUT LOW-BRED
YOU'RE NOT SUITED FOR THE NOBILITY.
EVEN THE DUEL—
IF I'D BEEN A COMMONER, I COULDN'T HAVE ACCEPTED YOUR CHALLENGE
ONLY THOSE OF EQUAL STATUS ARE ALLOWED TO DUEL EACH OTHER. NOBLEMEN WITH NOBLEMEN AND COMMONERS WITH COMMONERS.
IT'S QUITE ABSURD.
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT,
YOU'RE HERE NOW.
TO ME. THAT WAS LUCKY

SFX SU - A SLOW GENTLE MOVEMENT

—I DON'T UNDERSTAND

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S THINKING...
OR...
WHAT I'M THINKING...
MASTER WILLIAM!
MASTER WILLIAM, ARE YOU THERE?
MASTER WILLIAM!
MASTER WI...
IT'S DANGEROUS OVER THERE!

THAT CLIFF IS MORE UNSTABLE THAN IT LOOKS.
EH?
THE OTHER DAY, SOMEONE FELL FROM THERE AND GOT HURT.
EVEN THOUGH HE'S A MERCHANT...

HMM... I WOULD HAVE THOUGHT IT WAS THE "CRUEL" OR "FEROCIOUS" MEANING OF FELL.
THIS MANSION'S NAME IS "FELL CASTLE."
IT MEANS "CASTLE ON THE BARREN WASTELAND."
HA, HA, VERY FUNNY.
AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, THE LAND WAS BARREN.
SO MY GRANDFATHER AND HIS FAMILY HAD A HARD TIME OF IT
WELL, THAT SORT OF THING.
THE PEOPLE OF THIS REGION ARE USED TO HARDSHIP
SUCH A LAND IS A PLACE BATHED IN LOVE
MY DAD SAID TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE HERE THAT GIVE IT THEIR ALL

SUCH A THING MUST BE NATURAL TO YOU, A BORN NOBLEMAN
IS THAT SO ?
HAVE I EVER REALLY THOUGHT DEEPLY ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO WORK ON MY LAND?
DIDN'T I THINK OF THEM AS SIMPLY SOMETHING THAT WOULD COME ALONG WITH THE TITLE I WOULD INHERIT?
IF I HAD
knock knock
—CONSIDERED MYSELF IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE WORKING ON MY LAND THE WAY HE DOES, I MIGHT NOT HAVE CHALLENGED HIM TO A DUEL.
WHO'S THERE?
I AM SORRY TO INTRUDE, MASTER WILLIAM.

ISAAC!
MASTER WILLIAM.
I WAS POSITIVE THAT YOU WERE ALIVE.
HOW...
HOW DID YOU FIND ME HERE?
ONE OF THE SERVANTS OF THE ESTATE TOLD ME.
THAT THERE WAS A GUEST WHO HAD FALLEN FROM THE CLIFF AND BEEN INJURED.
IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT YOU ARE BEING TREATED AS A GUEST
LET US GO BACK, MASTER WILLIAM.
THERE'S NO POINT IN STAYING HERE
NO... I CAN'T!
NO, MASTER WILLIAM.
IF I RETURN NOW, IT WILL ONLY SHAME MY FATHER.

WHOOSH
PLEASE ENTRUST IT TO ME, ISAAC.
CREAK CREAK
AH.
CREAK
AH
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'RE SO WILLING TODAY.
NNNN...
SQUEEZE
AH...
AH!

AHHH...
AFTER THIS MANY TIMES, I'VE LEARNED THE KNACK FOR IT
SO I SEE.
YOU'VE BECOME QUITE GOOD.
THRUST
HA.
YOUR WOUND IS ALMOST HEALED.
PERHAPS YOU'RE READY TO GO OUTSIDE.
OUTSIDE?
THAT'S RIGHT... WOULDN'T YOU LIKE THAT?

IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR ME TO GO OUTSIDE?
THIS AREA IS ALL PART OF MY ESTATE
IN THIS SEASON, THERE ARE NO OTHER NOBLEMEN AROUND
IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T WE GO OUT...

ROB,
DON'T GO TOO FAR AWAY!
ARF
...TO GO HUNTING?
WOOF
WOOF
IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE, SO HE'S EXCITED
DON'T YOU GO HUNTING ALL THAT OFTEN?
WHAT?
SORRY...
I WAS JUST THINKING THAT OUTFIT SUITS YOU.

ONCE HE IS DEAD, WE CAN SOMEHOW MANAGE EVERYTHING ELSE.
YOU MUST KILL THAT MAN, MASTER WILLIAM, AND MAKE IT LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT.
WE CAN SPREAD A RUMOR THAT, ON THE DAY OF THE DUEL, CLOUDER SOMEHOW SET A TRAP AND THEN IMPRISONED YOU!
IT SHOULD
HUNTING IS A NOBLE-MAN'S SPORT
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE IT LOOK AS THOUGH HE USED SOME COWARDLY MEANS TO WIN
IF THE DUEL APPEARS TAINTED, THEN THE OUTCOME WILL NO LONGER MATTER.
I DOCTORED ALL OF CLOUDER'S BULLETS ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS INVITE HIM TO GO HUNTING
RIGHT?
EH?
AH!

I DIDN'T THINK THAT A DAY WOULD COME WHEN YOU WOULD BE STANDING NEXT TO ME LIKE THIS.
WHAT?
TO A MERE BARON WHO PURCHASED HIS TITLE, THE HOUSE OF FRESTON IS COMPLETELY OUT OF REACH
EVEN IF WE HAD GONE FOX HUNTING TOGETHER,
I WOULD ONLY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GAZE AT YOU FROM AFAR.
BECOMING A NOBLEMAN HASN'T CHANGED THINGS THAT MUCH.
FROM WHEN I WAS ONLY A TRADESMAN.
THE ONLY REASON I HAD TEA WITH LADY BEATRIX—
WAS BECAUSE SHE'S YOUR COUSIN AND HAS THE SAME HAIR AND EYE COLOR AS YOU.
BA-BUMP
SHE'S BEAUTIFUL,
BUT NOT COMPARED TO YOU.
BA-BUMP

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU
LORD PRESTON
MY LORD!
THE DOGS JUST RAN OFF AFTER SOME GAME!
WAY
WELL, THEN—
LET'S GO!
FA BUMP
WOULD HE SAY THAT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
FOUND 'EM!
COULD IT BE...?
FA BUMP
WOOF WOOF

DOES HE KNOW?
NOW...
IF YOU FIRE THAT GUN...
YOU'LL...
CLOUDER!

BANG
DON'T FIRE! CLOUDER!

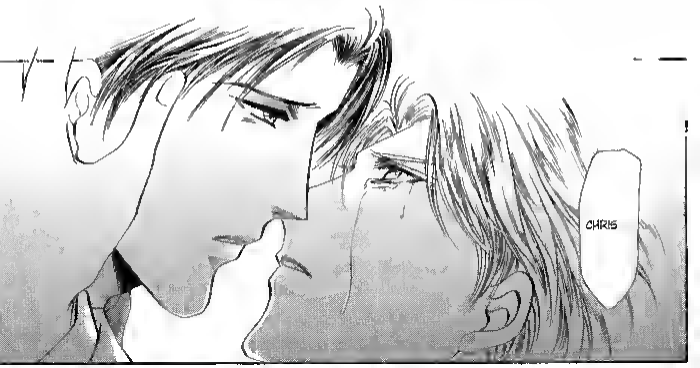
LIAM.
WILLIAM.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I'M ALL RIGHT.

I CHANGED ALL THE BULLETS
AS SOON AS I PICKED THEM UP
I COULD TELL THERE WAS TOO MUCH GUN POWDER.
SO,
I'M FINE
WILLIAM
IT WAS YOU WHO TAUGHT ME

TO BE A GENTLEMAN.

THAT MY HEART,

WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN RAISED PROPERLY,
WAS COWARDLY AND SMALL.



CARE FOR ME WITH
THOSE STRONG ARMS?
I'M PENNILESS,
AND LIKE A BARREN WASTELAND,
BUT

WILL YOU HELP ME TO BE REBORN...
LET'S GO HOME...
WILL
I'LL TAKE YOU TO MY ROOM...
LIKE THIS LAND...
TH T YOU LOVE...?
AND TOGETHER...
AND WE'LL STAY THERE A FEW DAYS,
UNTIL YOU GET USED TO IT...

WE'LL THINK OF A NEW NAME FOR YOU

END

特別企画 THE 貴族さま
新田祐克 剣解 東雲 裕 安曇もか
池玲文 原レタ
オール読み切り!!
新田祐克
プレミア記念!!
レッドカーペット再現 超ロング票つき♡
立野真琴
桜木あやん
桜川園子
青川伯子
橋井亜希
池田ソウコ
まなか三月
真山 空
お前のモノになるなら
貴族特集
地位も名誉もお金も要らない。
Boy
ボーイ
20
LUV
ラヴ